

ship because the conditions that made it ideal for navigating the Chesapeake Bay, shifting sand of 3 feet or less in depth, made it ideal for getting immigrants quickly and closely up to the coastal areas of Palestine.

After the Haganah secured the ship, she was retrofitted in Baltimore from where she sailed towards France to pick up 4,515 Holocaust the refugees and deposit them in Palestine—a plan which was destroyed after the British rammed the ship, prevented the refugees from disembarking in Palestine, detained them in inhumane conditions, and eventually returned them to Germany.

The world witnessed the inhumane treatment of the *Exodus*'s passengers and some righteous people cried out. We continue to talk about the *Exodus 1947* to remind ourselves never to forget both our suffering and our empowerment.

I would like to acknowledge all who have made the creation of this memorial possible. Along with a series of associated commemorative projects, the *Exodus 1947* memorial is the culmination of decades of tireless effort by the Jewish American Society for Historic Preservation, JASHP, to recognize the historic events that led to the formation of Israel. In particular, I applaud the work of Dr. Barry S. Lever, chairman of the 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Final Voyage of the SS *President Warfield—Exodus 1947*, the Jewish Museum of Maryland, the Chesapeake Bay Museum, and the individuals and organizations here and abroad who have aided in the efforts to honor the *Exodus 1947* and its passengers.

Thank you.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEWISTON-AUBURN ROTARY CLUB

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, on May 1, 1917, the International Association of Rotary Clubs welcomed a new member into its growing global network of neighbors, friends, and leaders working together for positive change in their communities and around the world. I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Lewiston-Auburn in my home State of Maine.

There are more than 35,000 Rotary Clubs worldwide. The Lewiston-Auburn club was the 291st to be chartered and is part of the first great wave of expansion that took the Rotary movement from major American cities to smaller communities and to Canada and Europe.

It is remarkable that what began as a small group of civic leaders in Chicago in 1905 has grown to a service organization of 1.2 million dedicated members in more than 200 countries and territories around the world. In any language, Rotarians live up to their motto of "Service Above Self."

Rotary International is a powerful force for good around the world. The

global effort to eradicate polio is considered to be the most successful public health campaign in human history, one that would not be possible without Rotary's commitment. When Rotary launched its PolioPlus program back in 1985, it was described as a "gift from the 20th century to the 21st." It has been just that.

In addition to its strong support for PolioPlus, the Lewiston-Auburn Club is part of a Rotary International effort to make affordable and safe water more widely available in Haiti. As a result of this effort, a tanker truck was purchased to address this great humanitarian need.

Locally, the Lewiston-Auburn Rotary Club has a special focus on families and children. The club has been a leader in the creation of Lewiston's Universally Accessible Playground, which will provide recreation for all, regardless of physical or developmental limitations. The club also sponsors an annual event to benefit the Autism Society of Maine and awards scholarships to area high-school graduates pursuing higher education.

"Service Above Self" has a special meaning to the members of the Lewiston-Auburn Rotary. The application for membership in Rotary International was signed on March, 21, 1917, by Frank W. Hulett of Lewiston. On June 6, 1918, Captain Hulett gave his life in the defense of freedom during the World War I Battle of Belleau Wood in France. Hulett Square in Lewiston, the Frank W. Hulett VFW Post, and the Lewiston-Auburn Rotary Club all help to preserve the memory of this great hero.

When Paul Harris led the way in founding Rotary International 112 years ago, he said this: "Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves." The results are inspiring and the world is grateful. The Rotary Club of Lewiston-Auburn, ME, is part of that effort, and I congratulate its members for this accomplishments and contributions.

Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Lewiston-Auburn, ME. There are over 35,000 Rotary Clubs worldwide, with the LA Rotary being the 291st. Since 1917, the LA Rotary has demonstrated a commitment to community and global service by supporting local organizations, awarding scholarships to local students, and providing clean water to communities in Haiti. In their 100 years of service, this exceptional organization has gained members who represent the unique and diverse business community of the Lewiston-Auburn area.

The LA Rotary was founded by Captain Frank W. Hulett, who gave his life during WWI on June 6, 1918, at the Battle of Belleau Wood in France. Since Captain Hulett signed the application for membership of Rotary International on March 21, 1917, the LA Ro-

tary has made great contributions to the worldwide Rotary organization of business and professional leaders. The LA Rotary has upheld an international presence by providing humanitarian service, encouraging high ethical standards in all vocations, and helping to build and maintain goodwill and peace throughout the world.

I applaud the LA Rotary's emphasis on local and global charity and giving back to their local communities. The LA Rotary is sponsored by the many donors who attend their successful fundraisers, including one that takes place at the famous Lewiston Hot Air Balloon Festival. The money raised from these fundraisers has gone towards several valuable projects like the Autism Movie Events, an ongoing project in partnership with a local movie theatre and the Autism Society of Maine. The LA Rotary has sustained their all-inclusive pattern by donating to the construction of the Lewiston Universally Accessible Playground Project. The playground will be barrier free, with smooth and level surfaces to make it easier for those with physical limitations, and is meant to provide an attractive and meaningful space for all, regardless of physical or sensory development. Another example of their excellent charity work is that, each May, the LA Rotary also gives back to local students by choosing seven high school seniors throughout the State to award \$1,000 college scholarships.

I wish to join the communities of Lewiston and Auburn, as well as the State of Maine, in congratulating the LA Rotary for this remarkable achievement. I look forward to following their continued growth and service, and I thank them for their commitment to bettering Maine and the world.

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ARMED SERVICE ENLISTMENT

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I wish to honor 374 high school seniors in eight northeast Ohio counties for their decision to enlist in the U.S. Armed Forces. Of these 374 seniors from 118 high schools in 98 towns and cities, 86 will enter the Army, 98 will enter the Marine Corps, 55 will enter the Navy, 26 will enter the Air Force, 3 will enter the Coast Guard, 95 will enter our Ohio Army National Guard, and 11 will enter the Ohio Air National Guard. In the presence of their parents/guardians, high school counselors, military leaders, and city and business leaders, all 374 will be recognized on May 10, 2017, at the Northeast Ohio Foundation for Patriotism "Our Community Salutes" event.

In a few short weeks, these young men and women will join with many of their classmates in celebration of their high school graduation. At a time when many of their peers are looking forward to pursuing vocational training or college degrees or are uncertain about their future, these young men